

# CAREER PATH

## MARINE INVERTEBRATE SCIENCE



## MARKUS FREDERICH

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND  
PROFESSOR OF MARINE SCIENCES

Markus Frederich, a professor of Marine Science at the University of New England (UNE), is a lover of invertebrate biology, or the biology of animals without a backbone. Although he grew up in inland Germany, he still found ways to explore the ocean and received his masters degree at a coastal university. As a child, Dr. Frederich dreamed of becoming a journalist and even worked at a newspaper before trying out nursing. Discovering a passion for the biological, Dr. Frederich realized that “Medicine without patients is biology!” and began to pursue his career as a biologist.

### DISCOVERING A PASSION FOR BIOLOGY

“If you have passion, there’s a way to get there. My first research experience was on ants!”

Now, Dr. Frederich explores the coasts and some of the amazing marine life that lives there!

Through his work as a scientist, Dr. Frederich is able to combine his passion for traveling with biology. “Traveling is so exciting and being able to link it to my job is even better!” As a teenager, he traveled all over Europe by train and has since taken every opportunity to explore the world. He has visited Southern Chile and sat in the middle of a colony of penguins, searched through the tide pools in Southern California and stood on the shores of Newfoundland as whales broke the surface of the water.

Although Dr. Frederich often gets to explore new places, his main focus is on invasive animals which are animals that invade new environments. “For now, we’re trying to find new methods to detect invasive species and find out what makes some species so successful.” For example, the European green crab is now living in Maine and harming native plants and animals.

